

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-12 (Canceled).

13. (Currently Amended) A suction inlet unit comprising:
a suction inlet main body having a bottom suction inlet,
a front suction inlet formed continuously with said bottom
suction inlet in ~~the~~ a front portion of said suction inlet main
5 body, and

an adjusting mechanism for moving at least ~~one~~ a first part
of a wall section forming said front suction inlet so as to
change an opening area of said front suction inlet,

10 wherein ~~[[:]]~~ said adjusting mechanism ~~is configured to~~
~~decrease~~ decreases the opening area of said front suction inlet
when ~~it~~ the first part of the wall section is contacted with and
pushed by ~~a wall or furniture~~ an obstruction; and

15 wherein the adjusting mechanism does not move at least a
second part of the wall section, the second part comprising a
non-rotatable front end surface of a bumper.

14. (Currently Amended) The suction inlet unit set forth in
claim 13, ~~wherein:~~

5 wherein the ~~at least one~~ first part of the wall section
forming said front suction inlet includes a cover ~~disposed to~~
~~cover one~~ which covers at least a part of the front suction inlet

~~an opening inlet formed in the front of said suction inlet main~~
~~body, and~~

~~wherein said adjusting mechanism is configured to be capable~~
~~of adjusting~~ adjusts the opening area of said front suction inlet
10 by moving said cover to ~~any~~ a position of ~~between a~~ wide opening
area position ~~or to any position of~~ and a narrow opening area
position.

15. (Currently Amended) The suction inlet unit set forth in
claim ~~13~~ 14, wherein ~~when~~ said cover ~~having~~ has an upper end
portion attached to said suction inlet main body ~~with~~ and a lower
end portion which is rotatable, and when said cover is contacted
5 with and pushed by the ~~wall or furniture~~ obstruction, the lower
end portion is rotated to narrow the opening area of said front
suction inlet.

16. (Currently Amended) A suction inlet unit comprising:
a suction inlet main body having a suction chamber with a
bottom suction inlet,

a rotary cleaning body provided ~~rotating~~ rotatably in said
5 suction chamber and having a cleaning member,

a front suction inlet formed continuously with said bottom
suction inlet in ~~the~~ front of said suction inlet main body, and

an adjusting mechanism for adjusting at least ~~one~~ a first
part of a wall section forming said front suction inlet so as to
10 ~~make one~~ control a forward protrusion, through said front suction
inlet, of at least a part of said rotary cleaning member protrude
~~forwards or not protrude forwards through said front suction~~
~~inlet,~~

wherein [[:]] when said adjusting mechanism is contacted
15 with and pushed by ~~a wall or furniture~~ an obstruction, ~~one~~ an
opening area of the front suction inlet decreases and said part
of said rotary cleaning member ~~cleaning body~~ protrudes ~~forwards~~
forward through said front suction inlet, and

wherein the adjusting mechanism does not adjust at least a
second part of the wall section, the second part comprising a
non-rotatable front end surface of a bumper.

17. (Currently Amended) The suction inlet unit set forth in
claim 16, wherein the cleaning member of said rotary cleaning
body ~~is configured to rotate~~ rotates from a front to a back
position to clean a cleaning surface.

18. (Currently Amended) The suction inlet unit set forth in
claim 16, wherein said rotary cleaning body includes a pivot
section and a plurality of cleaning members with different

lengths are provided along a circular direction around the pivot
5 section with spacing, and

wherein longer cleaning members are configured to be more
flexible than shorter cleaning members.

19. (Currently Amended) The suction inlet unit set forth in
claim 16, wherein [[:]] the ~~at least one~~ first part of the wall
section forming said front suction inlet includes a cover
~~disposed to cover one~~ which covers at least a part of the front
5 suction inlet ~~an opening inlet forming in the front of said~~
~~suction inlet main body, and~~

wherein said adjusting mechanism ~~is configured to be capable~~
~~of adjusting~~ adjusts the opening area of said front suction inlet
by moving said cover to ~~any~~ a position ~~of~~ between a wide opening
10 area position and a ~~or to any position of~~ narrow opening area
position.

20. (Currently Amended) The suction inlet unit set forth in
claim ~~17~~ 19, wherein ~~when~~ said cover ~~having~~ has an upper end
portion attached to said suction inlet main body ~~with~~ and a lower
end portion which is rotatable, and when said cover is contacted
5 with and pushed by the ~~wall or furniture~~ obstruction, the lower
end portion is rotated for protruding ~~at least one~~ said part of
the said cleaning member ahead of said front suction inlet.

21. (Currently Amended) The suction inlet unit set forth in claim ~~17~~ 19, wherein said cover is made from soft resin materials.

22. (Currently Amended) The suction inlet unit set forth in claim ~~18~~ 20, wherein said cover is made from soft resin materials.

23. (Currently Amended) The suction inlet unit set forth in claim ~~17~~ 19, wherein convex and concave portions are disposed on a surface of said cover.

24. (Currently Amended) The suction inlet unit set forth in claim ~~18~~ 20, wherein convex and concave portions are disposed on a surface of said cover.

25. (Currently Amended) A suction inlet unit comprising:
a suction inlet main body including a suction chamber having a bottom suction inlet and a front suction inlet formed continuously with said bottom suction inlet,

5 a rotary cleaning body provided ~~rotating~~ rotatably in said suction chamber and having a cleaning member, and

an adjusting mechanism for adjusting an opening area size of
said front suction inlet,

10 wherein ~~[[:]]~~ said adjusting mechanism ~~is configured to~~
~~adjust~~ decreases the opening area of said front suction inlet so
that at least ~~one~~ a part of the cleaning member of said rotary
cleaning body ~~protrude~~ protrudes ahead of said suction inlet main
body through said front suction inlet when a front portion of
said suction inlet main body is contacted with and pushed by ~~a~~
15 ~~wall or furniture~~ an obstruction; and

wherein, when adjusting the opening area, the adjusting
mechanism does not adjust at least an end part of a wall section
forming said front suction inlet, the end part being provided at
the front portion of said suction inlet main body and comprising
20 a non-rotatable front end surface of a bumper.

26. (Currently Amended) An electric vacuum cleaner ~~[[,]]~~
comprising:

a vacuum cleaner main body having a dust collecting chamber;

a suction inlet unit; and

5 a connector which detachably connects the vacuum cleaner
main body to the suction inlet unit;

wherein the suction inlet unit ~~set forth in claim 13~~
comprises:

10 a suction inlet main body having a bottom suction
inlet,
a front suction inlet formed continuously with said
bottom suction inlet in a front portion of said suction inlet
main body, and
an adjusting mechanism for moving at least a first part
15 of a wall section forming said front suction inlet so as to
change an opening area of said front suction inlet,
wherein said adjusting mechanism decreases the opening
area of said front suction inlet when the first part of the wall
section is contacted with and pushed by an obstruction, and
20 wherein the adjusting mechanism does not move at least
a second part of the wall section, the second part comprising a
non-rotatable front end surface of a bumper.

27. (Currently Amended) An electric vacuum cleaner [[,]]
comprising:

a vacuum cleaner main body having a dust collecting chamber;
a suction inlet unit; and
5 a connector which detachably connects the vacuum cleaner
main body to the suction inlet unit;
wherein the suction inlet unit ~~set forth in claim 16~~
comprises:

10 a suction inlet main body having a suction chamber with
a bottom suction inlet,
a rotary cleaning body provided rotatably in said
suction chamber and having a cleaning member,
a front suction inlet formed continuously with said
bottom suction inlet in front of said suction inlet main body,
15 and
an adjusting mechanism for adjusting at least a first
part of a wall section forming said front suction inlet so as to
control a forward protrusion, through said front suction inlet,
of at least a part of said rotary cleaning member,
20 wherein when said adjusting mechanism is contacted with
and pushed by an obstruction, an opening area of the front
suction inlet decreases and said part of said rotary cleaning
member protrudes forward through said front suction inlet, and
wherein the adjusting mechanism does not adjust at
25 least a second part of the wall section, the second part
comprising a non-rotatable front end surface of a bumper.

28. (Currently Amended) An electric vacuum cleaner [[,]]
comprising:

a vacuum cleaner main body having a dust collecting chamber;
a suction inlet unit; and

5 a connector which detachably connects the vacuum cleaner
main body to a suction inlet unit;

wherein the suction inlet unit ~~set forth in claim 25~~
comprises:

a suction inlet main body including a suction chamber
10 having a bottom suction inlet and a front suction inlet formed
continuously with said bottom suction inlet,

a rotary cleaning body provided rotatably in said
suction chamber and having a cleaning member, and

an adjusting mechanism for adjusting an opening area
15 size of said front suction inlet,

wherein said adjusting mechanism decreases the opening
area of said front suction inlet so that at least a part of the
cleaning member of said rotary cleaning body protrudes ahead of
said suction inlet main body through said front suction inlet
20 when a front portion of said suction inlet main body is contacted
with and pushed by an obstruction, and

wherein, when adjusting the opening area, the adjusting
mechanism does not adjust at least an end part of a wall section
forming said front suction inlet, the end part being provided at
25 the front portion of said suction inlet main body and comprising
a non-rotatable front end surface of a bumper.